

1. RESTRICTED HANDLING MESSAGES. NOT BE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO SPECIAL SIGNAL CENTER.
2. DO NOT EXCEED 69 TYPEWRITTEN CHARACTERS PER LINE, INCLUDING SPACES.

Approved For Release 2004/12/02 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000600100032-6

25X1 ORIG: GACarver, Jr.
25X1 UNIT: DCI/SAVA
EXT: [REDACTED]
DATE: 8 Feb. 1971

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

18 19 58z FEB 71

MJFS
MOR
HDC
Copy _____ of _____

(CLASSIFICATION)

(DATE AND TIME FILED)

SECRET

CITE HEADQUARTERS

25X1 TO IMMEDIATE VIENTIANE [REDACTED]
47Y

25X1 [REDACTED]

1. GENERAL PURSLEY, SECRETARY LAIRD'S PRINCIPAL
25X1 MILITARY ASSISTANT, HAS JUST CALLED [REDACTED] TO LEVY CRYPTIC
INQUIRY AT LAIRD'S DIRECTION. LATTER IS QUIETLY PROBING TO
SEE IF PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR AUTHORIZING B-52 STRIKES
ARE CAUSING ANY PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD, I. E., IN LAOS. THERE
IS CLEARLY MORE TO THIS SOUNDING THAN MEETS THE EYE, THOUGH
AT THIS WRITING WE ARE NOT SURE WHAT IS INVOLVED. SOMEONE
HAS APPARENTLY INTIMATED TO LAIRD THAT WASHINGTON'S (HIS)
CONTINUED EXERCISE OF TIGHT CONTROL OVER AUTHORIZATION
OF SUCH STRIKES IS CAUSING DELAY AND MISSED OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE COMBAT ZONE. THERE IS ALSO APPARENTLY PRESSURE

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

SECRET

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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THIS FORM FOR USE BY AUTHORIZED RESTRICTED HANDLING MESSAGE USERS ONLY!

GROUP 1
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

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S E C R E T

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TO FROM SOME QUARTER TO GIVE THE FIELD (PRESUMABLY GODLEY, POSSIBLY ABRAMS) MORE DISCRETIONARY LATITUDE THAN IT IS NOW ENJOYING. [] TOLD PURSLEY HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS IN THIS SPHERE DERIVING FROM IMPERFECTIONS IN CURRENT AUTHORIZATION PROCEDURES, BUT SAID HE WANTED TO CHECK BEFORE GIVING DEFINITIVE ANSWER. PURSLEY SAID LAIRD WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER IN SOME DETAIL AT HIS MEETING WITH [] AT 1000 EST WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY.

~~William E. Nelson~~
C/FE
RELEASING OFFICER

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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